

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 5207 號七九百二十五第 日九念九月庚申年

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER, 1874.

六年丙 號七一十英 香港

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH.

Arrivals.

November 6, Sea Gull, British str., 1,545; S. L. Ridge, Calcutta, 15th October, Po-wang 23rd, and Singapore 28th, General - JARINER, MATTHESON & Co. November 6, HINDOSTAN, British str., 991; Miller, Calcutta, 15th October, Sand Heads 16th, Penang 23rd, and Singapore 26th, 1,065; chests Opium, and Sundries - D. SASSON, Sons & Co. November 6, NESTOR, British steamer, 1,414; Courtenay, Liverpool 9th September, and Singapor 28th October, General - BUTTERFIELD & SWINE. November 6, PARIS, British steamer, 920; Bayard, Bangkok 26th October, General - TACK-MEE. November 6, YANGTZE, British steamer, 782; A. CORTEZ, Shanghai 2nd Nov., General - SIEMIRSK & Co.

Departures.

November 6, CHINKING, str., for Shanghai. November 6, ERMOND GRESSE, for Sagon. November 6, TANAKA, str., for Yokohama. November 6, ESHEN, str., for Singapore and London.

Clearances.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE, November 6th, for New York. Loyalty Rich,

Passengers.

ARRIVED.
For Master, str., from Liverpool, 2d. - Mrs. Hunter - Mr. and Mrs. Lane, Messrs. Laty, McDavid, Pritchard, Urquhart, and Hargrave, and 150 Chinese. For Shanghai - Mr. Macleod. For Hindostan, str., from Calcutta, &c. - Mrs. Gaspe and child, Mrs. Sedditch, Miss Jordan, Master D. McDonald, Messrs. M. Chester, Dennis, M. A. Anthony, and Eagleson. For Sea Gull, str., from Calcutta, &c. - 250 Chinese. For Paris, str., from Bangkok - 40 Chinese. For Yangtze, str., from Shanghai - Mr. E. Muller and 84 Chinese.

Reports.

The British steamer Yangtze reports left Shanghai on 3rd November, and had fine weather and moderate monsoon.

The British steamer Paris reports left Bangkok on 26th October, and had very heavy N.E. gales and strong monsoon with high sea throughout the passage.

The British steamer Nestor reports left Liverpool on 29th September and Singapore on October 25th. From Singapore experienced very heavy weather. From 10. N. had very heavy gales from the N. and N.E. with tremendous high sea.

The British steamer Hindostan reports left Calcutta on the 15th October, Sand Heads on the 16th, Penang on the 23rd, and Singapore on the 28th. After leaving Singapore experienced from 7 N. to 18 N. a succession of North Easterly gales with high sea, and thence to arrival moderate N.E. monsoon and fair weather.

The British steamer Sea Gull reports left Calcutta on the 15th October, Penang on the 23d, and Singapore on the 28th. Experienced heavy onshore N.W. monsoon. Anchored at Diamond Harbour. Wind force 6, sea force 3, and varied S.W. lasting from noon on the 15th to 10 P.M. on the 16th. Light wind drove several miles out of position. One pilot brig with 20 pilots reported gone, several vessels ashore, and great quantity of wreck about. Left Calcutta on 15th October, and arrived at Penang on the 22nd and left again on the 23rd, and arrived at Singapore on the 25th, and left again on the 28th. Arrived at Penang on the 29th, and after leaving Singapore took Fair Passage; the first part was with heavy seas, and thence to night, the latter part strong N.E. monsoon with high sea and current running one and half mile to the W.S.W.

Vessels that have arrived in Europe from Ports in Asia, Japan and Manila. (Per last Mail's Advice.) Date of Arrival: Leon (s) Manila Sept. 24

Vessels Expected at Hongkong. (Corrected to Date.)

Yacht's Name From Date. Adjunto, New York, Feb. 10. Albatross, Philadelphia, Feb. 19. Cleopatra, London, April 1. Kinfanna Castle, London, June 13. Marlin, Penang, June 18. Stefano, Penang, June 20. Lord Maccus, Liverpool, June 23. Canton, Falmouth, June 29. Hamilton, Cardiff, June 29. Obiamman, London, July 10. Buona, New York, July 10. Nereid, Liverpool, July 13. Guss Cook, New York, July 14. Henriette Bahne, Hamburg, July 17. Hawk (s), London, July 27. Windhoek, London, Aug. 15. Charlotte, Cardiff, Aug. 15. Marie, Cardiff, Aug. 16. Sorow (s), Newcaste, Aug. 20. Marco Polo, Liverpool, Aug. 25. Aspinwall (s), Liverpool, Aug. 28. Royal Merchant, Swanage, Aug. 29. Tyness, London, Aug. 29. Pallia, Hamburg, Sept. 3. Invincible, London, Sept. 9. Fede o Spagna, Swansea, Sept. 14. Hassa, Cardiff, Sept. 15. Boats, Cardiff, Sept. 18. Glacius (s), Liverpool, Sept. 19. Grana, Hamburg, Sept. 19. Glaucus (s), London, Sept. 20. Glaucus (s), London, Sept. 22.

Auction Sales To-day.

* None.

POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CHAS. H. MORGAN, Agent.

By 943 Hongkong, 1st June 1874.

THE QUEEN INSURANCE COMPANY.

CAPITAL - TWO MILLION STERLING.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agent for the above Company at this port, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire, to the extent of £10,000, on Buildings or Goods stored therein.

EDWARD NORTON & Co.

At 941 Hongkong, 22nd January, 1874.

CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Articles of Association, Two-thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premium contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.

OIL TIPPET & Co., General Agents.

11 931 Hongkong, 17th April, 1874.

Banks.

THE QUEENSLAND NATIONAL BANK, LIMITED.

Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1863.

CAPITAL, £300,000.

HEAD OFFICE, BRISBANE.

DIRECTORS:

HON. F. H. HART, M.L.C., Chairman.

HON. A. B. BUCHANAN, M.L.C.

HON. THOS. MILWAIRATH, M.L.A.

AUDITORS:

FREDERICK ORME DARVAL, Esq.

W. F. DIGBY, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER:

E. R. DRURY.

MANAGERS:

BEENLEIGH CHARTERS TOWERS.

COOKTOWN.

GYMPIE.

MARYBOROUGH.

MILLCHESTER.

ROCKHAMPTON.

RACEHORN.

RANTHORPE.

TOOWOOMBA.

TOWNSVILLE.

AGENTS IN LONDON:

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA.

ASPECTS OF NEW SOUTH WALES:

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF SYDNEY.

AGENTS IN VICTORIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AND WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA.

AGENTS IN NEW ZEALAND:

THE BANK OF NEW ZEALAND.

AGENTS IN NEW YORK:

MESSRS. LAIDLAW & CO.

THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA.

AGENTS IN INDIA AND THE EAST:

THE ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

£1139] [July 21, 1874.

THE OREGON CALIFORNIA BANK, (LIMITED).

412, CALIF. ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

London Office.....3, Angel Court.

New York Agents, J. & W. SELIGMAN & Co., 21, Broad Street.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL STOCK.....\$6,000,000.

WILL receive Deposits, open Accounts, make Collections, buy and sell Exchange and Bullion, Loan Money, and issue Letters of Credit available throughout the world.

FRED. F. LOW, Manager.

1887] IGN. STEINHARD, Manager.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....5,000,000 of Dollars.

RESERVE FUND.....750,000 of Dollars.

Court of Directors:

Chairman, W. H. FOSTER, Esq.

Deputy Chairman - The Hon. R. HOWEY.

Ad. And. Sec., A. F. Head, Esq.

E. R. Bellin, Esq.

H. B. Sisson, Esq.

J. F. Corde, Esq.

Hongkong - James Craig, Esq., Manager.

Shanghai - John Cameron, Esq.

London Bankers - London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED:

On Current Deposit Account at the rate of 1 per cent. on the daily balance.

On Fixed Deposits:

For 3 months' 2 per cent. per annum

6 " 4 "

12 " 5 "

LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED:

Orchis - granted unapproved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Orchis - London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

JAMES GREGG, Chief Manager.

No. 1, Queen's Road East,

Hongkong, 8th August, 1874.

COMPTOIR DES COMPTES DE PARIS.

BY Order of the Board of Directors, Mr. CH. DE GUIGNE will take charge of this Agency as Manager, from the date.

A. PHILIPPE, Acting Manager.

Acting Manager

54 1820 Hongkong, 3rd November, 1874.

NOTICE:

I HAVE this day established myself at this Port as a WINE and SPIRIT MERCHANT and GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.

OFFICE - No. 50, Queen's Road Central.

ED. UHSTEL, 3rd November, 1874.

NOTICE:

EDWARD NORTON & Co. has this day admitted a Partner in our Firm.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

1829 Hongkong, 2nd November, 1874.

NOTICE:

THE Undersigned hereby begs to notify for general information that there is no Partnership whatever in the Photographic business carried on under the Style or Firm of APONG. The Undersigned being the Sole Proprietor.

Mr. N. NOUVELLE MENDES is authorized to sign my name for prosecution.

AFONG, Photographer.

1889 Hongkong, 4th November, 1874.

THE Undersigned has been appointed Agent for the Sale of Messrs. HENRY KING & Co. of London.

OFFICE - No. 8, Strand Street.

W. H. NOTLEY, Agent.

1875 Hongkong, 24th October, 1874.

NOTICE:

MR. ALFRED THOMAS MANGER has this day become a Partner in our Firm.

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

1829 Hongkong, 2nd November, 1874.

NOTICE:

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agent for the above Company, has prepared to grant Policies against Fire, to the extent of £10,000 on Buildings or Goods stored therein.

EDWARD NORTON & Co.

1829 Hongkong, 22nd January, 1874.

NOTICE:

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agent for the above Company, has prepared to grant Policies against Fire, to the extent of £10,000 on Buildings or Goods stored therein.

EDWARD NORTON & Co.

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S. GLENFALLOCH, FROM LONDON.
SINGAPORE, &c.

ALL CLAIMS against the above Steamer must be sent to the Undersigned or before TO-DAY, the 7th November, or they will not be recognized.

GILMAN & CO.,
Agents,
10d 1874 Hongkong, 28th October, 1874.

NOTICE.

In the Goods of LOUIS GUSTAVE VAN SALLO, Deceased.

ALL Persons having any CLAIMS against the above Estate are requested to send in Particulars of the same to the Undersigned, on or before the 1st Day of February, 1875, after which date no Claims will be recognized.

And all Persons being indebted to the said Estate are requested to make Immediate Payment.

J. FAIRBAIRN,
Administrator
1874 Hongkong, 27th October, 1874.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons having any CLAIMS against the Estate of the late Captain JOHN C. FINE are requested to communicate with the Undersigned; and all Persons being indebted to the said Estate are requested to make Immediate Payment.

JOHN S. LAPRAIK,
Administrator
1874 Hongkong, 27th October, 1874.

NOTICE.

GABRIEL BUBOST, Deceased.

ALL Persons having any CLAIMS against the above Estate are requested to furnish Particulars of the same to the Undersigned, on or before the 1st Day of March, 1875, after which date they will not be recognized.

ED. CHASTEL,
Administrator
1874 Hongkong, 24th October, 1874.

NOTICE.

THE HOUSEHOLD COMPANION AND STUDENTS FIRST ASSISTANT, By Dr. D. Williams, Orthography, PATES, In Paper Wrapper, 1/-, 2/-, 3/-, Newly Bound. Apply at the Daily Press Office.

MARIAE.

On Friday, 6th Nov, at St John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. R. Howard Kidd, Colonial Chaplain, CHARLES NORLAND KEEF, of Stratford, England, to ALICE MARY, eldest daughter of the late Captain George A. M. M. H. M.'s 38th Regiment and Commandant of 8th Battalion N.I. [1818]

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, NOVEMBER 7th, 1874.

A little question which might be easily settled upon some reasonable and satisfactory basis, crops up from time to time at the Police and Supreme Courts in a rather un dignified form. It happens at times that an interpreter is required for Hindostanies or some other language for which a regular interpreter is not provided; and under such circumstances, it has been the practice of the Courts usually to call upon some government official, who happens to be present, to perform the office of interpreter without fee or reward. It has been objected without reason that such work is not what the government from time to time called upon are paid for, and that some remuneration ought to be given to them. Our readers will no doubt recollect two or three cases of recent occurrence where this question arose, the last instance being in the Summary Court, when Mr. Justice SNOWDEN promised to send an application for payment to the proper quarter, expressing his opinion that the work ought to be paid for, therein differing from Mr. ROUSELL, the Police Magistrate, who, when the same question arose before him, considered that a government official ought to be willing to render a service of the kind without extra emolument.

We trust, however, that the view of Mr. SNOWDEN may be acted upon in preference to Mr. ROUSELL, and imagine that the latter gentleman will possibly upon further consideration alter the opinion formed upon the spur of the moment in the case which before him. There is a very fair test which can be applied to the solution of the matter, which we doubt not—Mr. ROUSELL's—whether it would cause him to recognise so soon as it is pointed out. It is simply the question whether the work which a man is called upon to perform at a given time fairly emanates from that which he is engaged to do. It is no doubt unreasonable as well as unwise for an employé either in Government or any other Service to object to doing a little additional work if within his power, when it is of the kind he is engaged to perform, and we should be the last to advocate that additional pay should be given under such circumstances.

But the case stands differently when the work has no reasonable connection with his ordinary avocations, and in most of these cases the only thing that connects the person called upon to assist the Courts with the work is the circumstance of his happening to be able to perform it, and being within call. In such a case it would clearly be only fair and just to pay a reasonable fee for the service, and some simple plan could easily be devised to meet the difficulty. Either those

who are acquainted with languages in which the services are required, should be paid an extra amount of service upon the understanding that they would be willing to assist when necessary, or there should be a scale of fees payable by the Court, perhaps most conveniently according to time—in all cases where an interpreter is called in. If a person not in Government employ is employed as interpreter he is paid a fee, and unless the duty of interpreting is fairly part of those which a man in the Government Service has undertaken to perform he ought to be placed upon the same footing. This principle would not apply to the gentlemen in the Government Service who, originally student interpreters of Chinese, have since obtained other appointments, as it was clearly understood by the terms of their engagement that they would study Chinese in order to give the Government the benefit of their knowledge. For such assistance as they may render they are paid by more rapid promotion, and larger salaries than those which they would otherwise obtain; but where a man happens to know a language, to interpret which he is in no way engaged, it is only reasonable to place him upon the same footing as other persons who might afford the Court the same service, and pay him a remuneration for the work which he does.

The remanded case in which Inspector CLEEVES charged Teng-Sen and others with grand larceny in Third Street, came on again.

The first defendant said he did not belong to the gang, "to went to see his brother." The rest of the defendants made similar excuses. The last of the batch found in the act of gambling is a well-known beggar in this colony, who said he went to the Joss house to see if Jesus considered it advisable for his son to go to Canton to recruit health. He procured a few yards of cotton cloth, and when he was arrested he said he had brought it to sell to the Joss house.

The second defendant was discharged and the case was remanded till the 13th instant, when the defendant was admitted to bail in the sum of £50.

THE NATIONAL FAILING.

Mr. J. L. CO., of Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co., charged Chan Kwok Wah, a copy clerk in the contraband at Government House, with attempting to obtain four boxes of cigars from the firm's compradores by false representations; and Mr. E. D. FARRELL, of Messrs. Lamont Atkinson & Co., also charged him with obtaining two boxes of cigars on the 21st September, and one box on the 2nd of the same month, and two boxes, from this firm, under false representations.

The case was remanded till to-morrow (this day) at 12 o'clock.

GAMBLING HOUSE.

The remanded case, in which Inspector CLEEVES charged Teng-Sen and others with grand larceny in Third Street, came on again.

The first defendant said he did not belong to the gang, "to went to see his brother."

The rest of the defendants made similar excuses. The last of the batch found in the act of gambling is a well-known beggar in this colony, who said he went to the Joss house to see if Jesus considered it advisable for his son to go to Canton to recruit health. He procured a few yards of cotton cloth, and when he was arrested he said he had brought it to sell to the Joss house.

The second defendant, in the charge of Mr. ROUSELL, was remanded in the afternoon of the 21st October, to the Joss house, to see if Jesus considered it advisable for his son to go to Canton to recruit health. He procured a few yards of cotton cloth, and when he was arrested he said he had brought it to sell to the Joss house.

The third defendant, recognising as the master of the house, was fined £20, or six months' hard labour; fourteen others were fined £5 or one month's hard labour; and the rest were discharged with a caution.

TALES OF GUILTY.

The remanded case, in which Inspector CLEEVES charged Teng-Sen and others with grand larceny in Third Street, came on again.

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A NAVY WORD.—According to an American paper the Duke of Edinburgh will "concur" at Liverpool in September.

It was stated in error in yesterday's paper that Mr. W. H. Brewerton had left by the steamer Douglas.

During the winter months, the service at St. Peter's English Church will be at 5 o'clock every Sunday evening instead of at 6 o'clock. The morning service at 11 o'clock on the first Sunday in each month will be continued as usual.

Sauve complaints are made of rice powders and other native going about in costumes designed more for convenience than decency. Some Sikhs, who had just arrived, recently changed their clothes at hawker's wharf in a most objectionable manner, notwithstanding that they were in charge of a Sikh Constable, who they were expected to know something of Hongkong morale, if not of its morality.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.
VIA RUSSIA.

SUPPLIED TO THE "DAILY PRESS".

LONDON, 3rd November, 1874.

The Lord of the Isles was at Malta disabled.

The American Autumn election shows a large majority in favor of the Democratic party.

Hongkong, 5th November, 1874.

POLICE IN INTELLIGENCE.

NOVEMBER 3RD.

BEFORE THE HON. C. MAY.

DEBRAZED.

John Culkin, a seaman belonging to the "Lady Rich," was charged with being disorderly but was discharged.

REFUSING TO PAY CHAIN RIBBONS.

An American was refusing to pay chain ribbons to his master, and was charged by the master with being disorderly.

THE VICTORY.

John Palmer, a sailor, was charged by his master with being disorderly and was fined £10. The master was allowed to pay him back.

EDWARD.

John Palmer, a sailor, was charged by his master with being disorderly.

NOVEMBER 3RD.

ONE.

Cheung Kun, a fishmonger in the Market, was charged with assaulting a cook, and stealing £2.50 from him. Complainant's story seemed most improbable, and on cross-examination the cook said he had been drinking with a number of other men, and when he was drunk he was placed in the dock beside defendant. They were fined £1 each, in default of which they go to prison for three days.

LAWCEN.

Tam A-fun, a cook, for stealing a quantity of fish from a Chinese boat on the Praya, was sent to imprisonment for 31 days.

BREACH OF THE LAW.

Chun Ayuk, a sailor, was charged with shooting and creating a disturbance in the market. The first two defendants were fined 10 cents each.

ON STEALING.

Oban Asan, a servant, unemployed, was charged by Inspector Burns, of Yau Ma Tei, with the unlawful possession of a gold ring, a silver hair pin, and with suspicion of stealing a brown silk jacket from his bed room during his absence. The defendant was charged with the robbery of other men, and was sentenced to a month's imprisonment and was given into custody.

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THE PUGIN AND HERBERT LIBEL CASE.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.—SEPT. 24TH
THE PUGIN AND HERBERT LIBEL AGAINST MR. PUGIN.

Mr. Edward Weller, Esq., who was convicted yesterday (Wednesday) of writing certain seditious and defamatory libels upon Mr. John Rogers Herbert, the Royal Academician, again surrendered to his decision of the Court.

Mr. Metcalfe, Q.C., and Mr. Poland were present on behalf of the prosecution. Mr. Digby Egerton, Mr. Justice Mountague Williams appeared for the defendant.

The case had stood over in order to see if any arrangement could be made that would protect the prosecutor from a repetition of the annoyance to which he had been subjected by the defendant.

Mr. Metcalfe, addressing the Court, regretted that an arrangement such as was contemplated could not be made, but it was impracticable, and said that in an ordinary case, it might have been contented with the defendant's promise to do what he could to secure to come up and receive judgment if called upon to do so.

In the present case, however, the annoyance had continued for so long a time, and the defendant had so repeatedly broken the solemn pledges he had given in similar cases not to repeat the offence, that the prosecutor felt that he could not rely upon defendant's personal honour to let the matter rest, and sent him a notice of the gravity of the proceedings, and the very repeated nature of the offence, so that you may have a claim in respect to the former trial, and I may observe that although the very repeated, they expressed their opinion that the libels were most scandalous, though they did not consider them to be seditious, and undertake to pay the cost of the prosecution, to receive the judgment, and still upon you to give sentence to appear and receive judgment if you should be called upon to do so. If you abstain from prosecuting the prosecutor, and will not accept the notice of the same kind, you will incur all the costs of the action, and be called up for judgment, but I assure you, if you do repeat the offence you will be liable to be called upon to receive sentence, and I warn you also to believe what I say, when I inform you that the sentence will certainly be severe one.

The learned Judge then exhorted the defendant as a gentleman and a man of mark to seriously consider the warning he had given him, and the great impropriety of writing letters of this description, and that the proceedings could not be tolerated. It is his lordship added, you have an ally against Mr. Herbert, you must endeavour to enforce it legally in a Court of Justice like a man, and if Mr. Herbert should shun you, you must bring an action against him; but you cannot bring an action against him, in the way you have done, and I hope that you will take the advice I have given you.

Mr. Pugin said he was quite willing to accept the proposed terms, and he stated that he wished to express his thanks to his lordship for the kind manner in which he had treated him.

Baron Brunwell then fixed the amount of the defendant's personal recognisances at £500, and said that he should find two sureties in £250 each to keep the peace towards the prosecutor and all her Majesty's subjects, also to appear and receive judgment if he should be called upon to do so.

The required sureties were at once entered into, and the defendant left the court, and thus the master ended.

TO BE LEFT TILL CALLED FOR.

Some years ago there lived a gentleman well known to the London police under the sobriquet of "Jack-in-the-Box." He had performed a most ingenuous profit, though in the result disastrous. He had a box so ingeniously constructed that it easily opened and closed, and the air necessary for respiration. He would have this box taken from him, and then the air necessary for respiration.

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Extracts.

CLOUD.

A cloud the sky has overpassed,
The brightness of the landscape faded,
A chill in the air;
The sun has turned a wanish grey,
That flashing in the distance lay,
One sulphur everywhere.

Oh! lo! our hearts are darkened o'er;
We wander land in hand no more.
The eye is blind to each import,
The right and wrong we look exchange
Are cold and few; our looks are strange
And troubled like our hearts.

But though our sky be overcast,
In this the stars are brightest;
I know the unfeigned truth,
Exists behind all the white;
I know that with relining smile
The sun will strike through.

EUSE COOPER.

A BRIGADE OF GIANTS.

The augmentation of the Prussian army was the one great object which Frederick William perpetually kept in view. His strict economy enabled him to provide for sixty thousand regular troops. One brigade was formed entirely of giants; agents were sent to every country of Europe, and to the bazaars of Cairo, Aleppo, and other Eastern cities, to seek men above the ordinary stature. This was one of the many whims of this eccentric monarch. Strength not always in proportion to size; but altogether his army was formidable. The master of such a force could not but be looked upon by his neighbours as a terrible enemy and a despicable ally.—*Louis XIV of Prussia.*

by Desirée H. Hudon.

AN HISTORICAL TREE.

But first let us cross the bridge and turn back a little into Hyde Park, over the grassy lawn between the Serpentine and the Frozen Row, to look at one large isolated elm nearly opposite Prince's Gate. Do you know what tree that is? Are you old enough to have a personal acquaintance with it? This elm, three-and-twenty years ago, was a great public character, the ornamental, the trying-place, of the omens, roused him from his slumbers and carried him away in the litter in which he was soon after assassinated. This story affords a good illustration of the ancient belief in the prophetic powers of the raven which caused it to be sacred to Apollo. Virgil, who had the good sense to regard the actions of these birds as the result of natural, rather than supernatural causes, refers in the Georgics to the joyful notes of the raven after a storm as indicative of fair weather, and mentions the dismal croak of the impudent crow stalking solitarily in the dry sand, as a sign of approaching rain. If a raven appeared on the left of a person the omen was particularly bad.

Sapientia caret mediatis illis cordis.

The evil repute attached to these birds in ancient times has lingered for centuries among the moderns. Abundant evidence of it is found in English literature. Spenser speaks of

The toise night raven, troupe of fated drear.

Marlowe associates the "croaking, crowing, cackling" of the "despotic, departing souls," with gloomy graves and the most dismal voices of the night. In the Baron's War, Dryden mentions the bald heads of the ominous raven as begotting stammer, imaginary fears, and telling terrors, his horse book of following horror. The prevalence of this superstition is thus referred to in Butler's Hudibras:

It is no uncommon in all countries
Nor in any place where there is a church upon tree.

It is natural that there should be many illustrations of this belief in the pages of Shakespeare, who turns to good account the weird fancies of all ages in his infinite creations. Horace, hateful, fatal, wretched, ballyhooing are the epithets which he applies to the raven, and the crow does not fare much better, being stigmatized as rascal and knavish. The reputation of the raven as a prophet of disaster is illustrated in two memorable instances. Thus when Lady Macbeth is plotting the murder of the king, she seeks to have him foretold by the voice of the ill-omened bird:

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